

ORIGINAL

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McGUIREWOODS

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MAR - 6 2002

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

March 6, 2002

VIA HAND DELIVERY

William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Section 1.1206 Ex Parte Statement of Ronan Telephone Consumer Advisory Committee

In the Matter of Multi-Association Group (MAG) Plan for Regulation of Interstate Services of Non-Price Cap Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers and Interexchange Carriers – **CC Docket No. 00-256**

In the Matter of Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime – **CC Docket No. 01-92**

In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service – **CC Docket No. 96-45**

In the Matter of Truth-in-Billing and Billing Format – **CC Docket No. 98-170**

Dear Mr. Caton:

On March 5 and 6, 2002, on behalf of Ronan Telephone Consumer Advisory Committee ("Ronan Consumer"), Jay W. Preston, Cynthia Preston, Linda West, Thomas Trickel, Chuck Evilsizer, and I, James U. Troup, met with members of the Federal Communications Commission. The representatives of Ronan Consumer met with Commissioner Kevin J. Martin, Sam Feder, Senior Legal Advisor to Commissioner Kevin J. Martin, and Matthew Brill, Common Carrier Legal Advisor to Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy on Tuesday, March 5, 2002. The representatives of Ronan Consumer met with Kyle D. Dixon, Legal Advisor to Chairman Michael K. Powell on Wednesday, March 6, 2002.

As summarized in the attached memorandum, we discussed the Multi-Association Group plan for the regulation of interstate services of non-price cap incumbent local exchange carriers and interexchange carriers, as well the Bill & Keep proposals in the Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime docket. In regard to the Universal Service Fund and Truth-in-Billing, it was noted that some interexchange carriers may be overcharging their customers.

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, an original and seven copies of this letter and the attached memorandum are provided. Please associate the original and one copy with CC

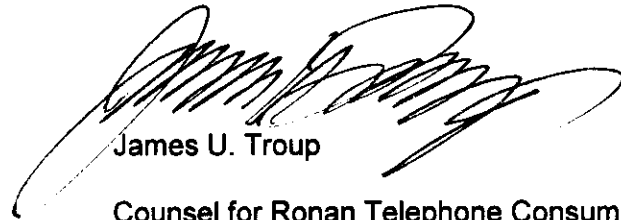
March 6, 2002
Page 2

Docket No. 00-256 and two copies with each of the following dockets: CC Docket No. 01-92; CC Docket No. 96-45; and, CC Docket No. 98-170.

Acknowledgement and date of receipt of this filing is respectfully requested. A duplicate copy of this letter is provided for this purpose.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact the undersigned at 202-857-1702.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James U. Troup', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

James U. Troup

Counsel for Ronan Telephone Consumer
Advisory Committee

Enclosure (Ex Parte Memorandum)

Cc: Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
Sam Feder, Senior Legal Advisor to Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
Matthew Brill, Common Carrier Legal Advisor to Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy
Kyle D. Dixon, Legal Advisor to Chairman Michael K. Powell

Ex Parte Memorandum

Ronan Telephone Consumer Advisory Committee

March 5 and 6, 2002

In the Matter of Multi-Association Group (MAG) Plan for Regulation of Interstate Services of Non-Price Cap Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers and Interexchange Carriers – *CC Docket No. 00-256*

In the Matter of Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime – *CC Docket No. 01-92*

In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service – *CC Docket No. 96-45*

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On March 5 and 6, 2002, on behalf of Ronan Telephone Consumer Advisory Committee ("Ronan Consumer"), Jay W. Preston, Cynthia Preston, Linda West, Thomas Trickel, Chuck Evilsizer, and James U. Troup, met with members of the Federal Communications Commission. The representatives of Ronan Consumer met with Commissioner Kevin J. Martin, Sam Feder, Senior Legal Advisor to Commissioner Kevin J. Martin, and Matthew Brill, Common Carrier Legal Advisor to Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy on Tuesday, March 5, 2002. The representatives of Ronan Consumer met with Kyle D. Dixon, Legal Advisor to Chairman Michael K. Powell on Wednesday, March 6, 2002.

The representatives for Ronan Consumer presented to the FCC their position that, from the perspective of rural consumers, there is no benefit derived from the MAG Order (CC Docket No. 00-256) and the Bill & Keep proposals (CC Docket No. 01-92). Rather, the MAG Order and the Bill & Keep proposals are detrimental and pose serious disadvantages and, therefore, Ronan Consumer opposes them. Ronan Consumer advocated that a new policy direction is necessary so as to provide benefits to rural America and to truly promote universal service.

Ronan Consumer provided details of the significant opposition in the Ronan community to the MAG Order and the Bill & Keep proposals. Ronan sent out post cards to poll the community and of the post cards that were returned (over one-third), 100 percent of them opposed the MAG Order and the Bill & Keep proposals. There is also significant local government opposition to the proposed policies. Resolutions of Opposition were adopted unanimously by the following local government entities: Tribal Counsel of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation; The City Council and Mayor of the City of Ronan; and, The Lake County Commission. Furthermore, the Montana Congressional delegation is in opposition as evident in letters submitted prior to the MAG Order from the following lawmakers, including Congressman Rehberg; Senator Burns; and, Senator Baucus.

The FCC's decision and proposals include the following: an 85% increase in the residential SLC charge; a 53% increase in the business SLC charge; a 52% decrease in the aggregate carrier access charge (4.6 to 2.2 cents); the creation of a huge new federal subsidy program called the Interstate Common Line Support ("ICLS"); and the Bill & Keep proposals in the Unified Intercarrier Compensation docket that seek to eliminate all carrier access charges.

Ronan Consumer described the major detrimental impacts in rural areas due to the FCC's decision and proposed policies. There will be severe impacts on the affordability of basic local telephone service. There will also be a decrease to rural company revenues from carrier access charges, and if Bill & Keep is imposed, there will be the complete elimination of this source of revenue, which is 60-70% of the total rural company revenues.

The goals of universal service in rural areas will be detrimentally affected, with the impact being especially severe in low-income areas. For example, the Flathead Indian Reservation, a struggling agricultural economy with many low and fixed income residents, as well as high unemployment levels, has a per capita income of only \$17,000. The SLC increases and potential rate increases from the access decreases are not affordable in the Ronan Consumer service area and many people may have to terminate their telephone service.

There will be a failure to support the rural wireline infrastructure, which is essential to the rural economy and continued universal service (affordable basic service). The FCC's actions will severely discourage any future investments in existing facilities, not only for upgrades, but even for basic maintenance.

The MAG Order creates a huge, new subsidy system ("ICLS") on top of the already existing, huge USF subsidy system. ICLS, which is derived from access charges below cost, is uneconomic, inefficient, and politically unpopular and unstable in the long run.

The decrease in access charges will be *below cost levels* and is not justified. For example, the average Montana rural cost per FCC cost model is 8 cents per minute, while the MAG Order requires an average of 2.2 cents per minute, which is recognized, but not explained or justified in the MAG Order. Offering service below cost to other carriers (some of which are local competitors, such as competitive local exchange carriers and wireless providers) is economically inefficient, illogical, unreasonable, and contrary to the requirements of the Telecommunications Act and the U.S. Constitution.

The long distance carriers will see a windfall of \$900 million from the MAG Order and rural customers will see none of the benefits.

The access decreases and/or the Bill & Keep elimination of 60-70% of revenues will result in substantial local phone service rate increases being sought at the state level.

Such local rate increases would be politically impossible for state commissions to approve. A Bill & Keep system would lead to a radical transformation of the telecommunications industry, inappropriately shifting huge costs from carriers and competitors to end-users, to the severe detriment of the preeminent state and federal policy goals of universal service, including affordable basic telephone rates. The Bill & Keep system would also eviscerate investment incentives for rural companies.

Also, in relation to the USF proceeding (CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 98-170), it was noted by Ronan Consumer that interexchange carriers may, in fact, be overcharging customers through the USF contribution charge.

As rural consumers who have studied telecommunications issues, Ronan Consumer sees absolutely no benefit to the MAG Order or the Bill & Keep proposals, but only serious disadvantage and detriment. Ronan Consumer urged the FCC to take a new policy direction as it is necessary to move in a positive direction that will provide benefits to rural America and truly promote universal service.

Attached hereto is a package of information provided at the meetings, which includes the following parts: Topic Outline; Resolutions; Public Opposition; and, Community Profile.

* * * * *

ATTACHMENT

**TOPIC OUTLINE
RONAN TELEPHONE CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
March, 2002**

RECEIVED
MAR - 6 2002

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

**RE: OPPOSITION TO FCC MAG ORDER and UNIFIED INTERCARRIER
COMPENSATION ("Bill & Keep") NPRM**

- **Severe impacts in rural America. A new policy direction is needed.**

FCC Decisions:
 - Subscriber Line Charge increase of 85%
 - Carrier access charge decreases of 52% (4.6 cents to 2.2 cents)
 - Creation of a huge new Federal subsidy program "Interstate Common Line Support" (ICLS)
 - "Bill & Keep" proposals in "Unified Intercarrier Compensation Docket" which would eliminate all intercarrier compensation.
- **Overwhelming Community Opposition**
 - The Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation
 - The Lake County Commission
 - The City Council and Mayor of the City of Ronan
 - One Third of Community returned Post Cards in Opposition to MAG & "Bill & Keep"
- **Entire Montana Congressional delegation and Others from both Parties supported a further review of the MAG proposals, among who include:**
 - **Senator Max Baucus, (D) MT**
 - **Senator Conrad Burns, (R) MT**
 - **Congressman Dennis Rehberg, (R) MT**
 - **Senator Tom Daschle, (D) SD**
 - **Senator Chuck Grassley, (R) IA**
 - **Senator Byron Dorgan, (D) ND**
 - **Senator Craig Thomas, (R) WY**
 - **Senator Blanche Lincoln (D) AR**

TOPIC OUTLINE
RONAN TELEPHONE CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
March, 2002

- **Major Rural Impacts from FCC Policy:**
 - Severe impacts on affordability of basic local telephone service.
 - Drastic decreases to rural company revenues.
 - Directly Contrary to Universal Service goal in rural areas:
 - Especially severe impact in low income areas and Indian Reservations
 - Economically depressed areas are hardest hit
 - Very low per capita incomes; high unemployment levels
 - Decreasing access charges *below cost levels* is not justified. Offering service below costs to other carriers (some of which are local competitors, such as CLECs and wireless) is economically inefficient, illogical, unreasonable, and contrary to the requirements of the Telecommunications Act and the Constitution.
 - FCC actions will fail to adequately support the rural wireline infrastructure with compensatory rates, which is essential to:
 - Maintenance and improvement of the infrastructure
 - New and advanced services
 - The rural economy
 - Affordable basic telephone service, universal service goals
 - MAG Order creates a huge new subsidy system on top of the huge existing USF subsidy system, contributing to its long term political instability.
 - Long distance carriers will see a windfall of \$900 million from MAG. Rural consumers will see *none* of this benefit. And, IXC's may in fact be over-charging customers through the USF contribution charge.

SUMMARY:

As rural consumers who have studied telecommunications issues, the Ronan Consumer Advisory Committee sees absolutely no benefit to the MAG order or the Bill & Keep proposals, but only serious disadvantages and detriment. A new policy direction is necessary to move in a positive direction, which will provide benefits to rural America and truly promote universal service.

**RESOLUTION
OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES
OF THE FLATHEAD NATION**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RONAN TELEPHONE CONSUMER
ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S EFFORTS OPPOSING THE FEDERAL
COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION MAG ORDER AND FEDERAL
COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION BILL AND KEEP PROPOSAL**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CONFEDERATED
SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES THAT:**

WHEREAS, the Ronan Telephone Consumer Advisory Committee is a volunteer community organization dedicated to representing consumer interests on telecommunications issues in the Ronan and Flathead Indian Reservation area; and

WHEREAS, the Ronan Telephone Consumer Advisory Committee has advised the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Council of its efforts on behalf of consumers to protect affordable telephone service in the Ronan area, and the action and proposals of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) which threaten affordable telephone service and the continued viability of the local telephone company; and

WHEREAS, the Ronan Telephone Company Consumer Advisory Committee sent letters informing the residents and businesses of the community regarding the FCC action which are increasing local telephone rates and received 981 reply post cards opposing the FCC action and supporting the Committee's efforts, which constitutes one-third of the Ronan/Pablo community; and

WHEREAS, the FCC adopted the "MAG Order" on November 8, 2001, which will drastically increase local telephone rates by increasing the "Subscriber Line Charge" on consumers' bills by 85% (from \$3.50 to \$6.50), and increasing the total charge for local service by 39%; and which also decreases the revenues the local company receives from other companies to complete calls in the local area, thereby adversely affecting the company's revenues and creating pressure for further rate increases (FCC Order No. 01-304); and

WHEREAS, the FCC has adopted a "Bill and Keep" proposal which proposes to completely eliminate traditional inter-carrier compensation mechanisms, which provides approximately two-thirds of the local company's revenues (FCC NPRM 01-132 in Docket 01-92); and

WHEREAS, revenue losses by the local telephone company and drastic local rate increases are directly contrary to state and federal policy directives which are intended to assure affordable and quality telephone service in rural areas, and the consumers on the Flathead Indian Reservation would be severely and adversely affected by such actions, many of whom are low-income or fixed-income households; and

WHEREAS, the economy and consumers of the Flathead Indian Reservation should not and cannot sustain the financial impacts ordered and planned by the FCC actions; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Council does hereby express its full and unqualified support for the efforts of the Ronan Telephone Consumer Advisory Committee in opposing the efforts of the FCC, and in fighting the Federal efforts which would abandon rural Montana and drastically increase our local telephone rates, and the Tribal Council further expresses its strenuous opposition to the FCC "MAG Order" and its "Bill and Keep" proposal.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Tribal Council on the 12th day of February, 2002, with a vote of 7 for; 0 opposed; and 0 not voting, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Article VI, Section 1 (a), (c) and (u) of the Tribes' Constitution and Bylaws; said Constitution adopted and approved under Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended.

ATTEST:


Executive Secretary


Chairman, Tribal Council

RESOLUTION 02-07

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE RONAN TELEPHONE
CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S EFFORTS OPPOSING
FCC MAG ORDER AND FCC BILL AND KEEP PROPOSAL**

WHEREAS, The Ronan Telephone Consumer Advisory Committee is a volunteer community organization dedicated to representing consumer interests on telecommunications issues in the Ronan and Mission Valley area;

WHEREAS, The Ronan Telephone Consumer Advisory Committee has advised the Lake County Commission of its efforts on behalf of consumers to protect affordable telephone service in the Ronan area, and the actions and proposals of the Federal Communications Commission which threaten affordable telephone service and the continued viability of the local telephone company;

WHEREAS, the Ronan Telephone Company Consumer Advisory Committee sent letters informing the residents and businesses of the community regarding the FCC actions which are increasing local telephone rates, and received 981 reply post cards opposing the FCC action and supporting the Committee's efforts, which constitutes one-third of the entire community;

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted the "MAG Order" on November 8, 2001, which will drastically increase local telephone rates by increasing the "Subscriber Line Charge" on consumers bills by 85% (from \$3.50 to \$6.50), and increasing the total charge for local service by 39%; and which also decreases the revenues the local company receives from other companies to complete calls in the local area, thereby adversely effecting the company's revenues and creating pressure for further rate increases (FCC Order No. 01-304);

WHEREAS, the FCC has adopted a "Bill and Keep" proposal which proposes to completely eliminate traditional inter-carrier compensation mechanisms, which provides approximately two-thirds of the local company's revenues (FCC NPRM 01-132 in Docket 01-92);

WHEREAS, revenue losses by the local telephone company and drastic local rate increases are directly contrary to state and federal policy directives which are intended to assure affordable and quality telephone service in rural areas, and the consumers in Lake County would be severely and adversely effected by such actions, many of whom are low-income or fixed income households; and,

WHEREAS, the economy and consumers of Lake County should not and cannot sustain the financial impacts ordered and planned by the FCC actions;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

the Lake County Commission does hereby express its full and unqualified support for the efforts of the Ronan Telephone Consumer Advisory Committee in opposing the efforts of the FCC, and in fighting the Federal efforts which would abandon rural Montana and drastically increase our local telephone rates; and,

the Commission further expresses its strenuous opposition to the FCC "MAG Order" and its "Bill and Keep" proposal.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2002.

BOARD OF LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Mike Hutchin, Chairman


Paddy Trusler, Member


Dave Stipe, Member

ATTEST:


Ruth E. Hodges, Clerk & Recorder

Ronan, Montana 59864

Dear Montana Congressmen, Conrad Burns, Max Baucus, Dennis Rehberg:

The Ronan Telephone Company Consumer Advisory Committee is an independent group of seven telephone consumers in the Ronan community who work with Ronan Telephone management to represent the consumer interest in national, state and local telephone policy.

We write to inform the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Montana's Congressional Delegation that we fully support the efforts of this Committee to preserve affordable, high quality rural telephone service here in Ronan. We are concerned that the so called "MAG" order has already increased the telephone bills of every resident and business in Ronan as of January 1, 2002, and that larger federally imposed telephone cost increases may be forthcoming.

In November of last year, the committee informed all Ronan telephone subscribers about the rate increase and the committee's ongoing efforts in opposition at the FCC. In addition, it sent out a reply forms to all telephone subscribers here in an effort to galvanize public opposition to the federal policies. They have received almost 1,000 of these signed cards back from consumers here, approximately one-third of the total sent.

We are concerned that the FCC decision to raise the "Subscriber Line Charge" (SLC) for all rural consumers as of January 1 of this year provides nothing to these consumers in return. Residential subscribers and businesses with a single line have now seen this item increase from \$3.50 per month to \$5.00 per month (a 43% increase); for businesses and institutions using multiple lines (including the City of Ronan), the charge has increased from \$6.00 per month per line to \$9.20 per month per line (a 53% increase). In addition, the residential and single line business SLC may be further increased on July 1, 2002 to \$6.00, and may be further increased to \$6.50 on July 1, 2003, which would be an overall increase of 86%. These rate increases will not result in improved service and rural consumers have no assurance that their long distance costs will decrease as a result.

While we are very concerned by this rate increase, we are even more alarmed by the policy direction the FCC is taking, of which this is the likely the first step, which will require our local telephone company, to eliminate all fees charged to all connecting carriers. The ultimate impact of this policy could raise local telephone rates by as much as 700% locally in Ronan, which is absolutely unacceptable.



207 Main St. S.W., Suite A

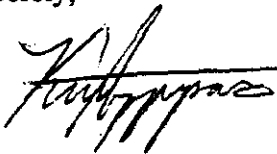
C I T Y O F
R · O · N · A · N

(406) 676-4231

Ronan, Montana 59864

The Ronan City Council unanimously supports the efforts of the RTC Consumer Advisory Committee in its efforts to oppose these federal policies.

Sincerely,



Kim Aipperspach

City of Ronan



RTC CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

P.O. Box 61

RONAN, MONTANA 59864

CORWIN "CORKY" CLAIRMONT, CHAIR

BONNIE MUELLER, VICE CHAIR

PHYLLIS HOULE

BILL KOBERG

AL SLOAN

THOMAS TRICKEL

LINDA WEST

PHONE RATE INCREASE!

November 14, 2001

Telephone Subscribers of Ronan Telephone Company

RE: FCC Ordered Rate Increase & Call for Protest

Dear Fellow RTC Telephone Consumers:

The Ronan Telephone Company Consumer Advisory Committee is a group of consumers that represents you, the consumers of Ronan Telephone Company. We are sending you this to request your input to help us represent you better, and to request your help in fighting an unjustified federally ordered rate increase.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued a decision on October 11 which will increase your telephone bill on January 1, 2002. Our committee has twice filed formal comments with the FCC opposing this rate change. We succeeded in enlisting the support of Senator Baucus, Senator Burns and Representative Rehburg asking the FCC to delay a decision in this case to allow further public input. The FCC ignored both the opponents to this process and the many Congressmen and Senators who supported a delay.

This decision will raise the federal residential Subscriber Line Charge by 43% and the multiple line business Subscriber Line Charge by 53%. The order also contemplates further increasing the residential fee by as much as 85% within two years.

Furthermore, the policy direction of this FCC indicates that this could be the first step in a longer process that will increase local telephone rates by as much as 700%.

We feel very strongly that our efforts to successfully advocate for continued affordable local telephone rates with the policymakers in Washington DC will be fruitless unless a large number of consumers join us in our protest!

To this end, we have enclosed reply cards expressing our concerns to the key policymakers at the FCC and to our Congressional Delegation, in hopes of sending the message that real live consumers in rural communities like ours, nationwide, will be severely impacted by these radical policies. If you agree that affordable telephone rates are something you need preserved, please join our effort by signing the 2 enclosed cards and returning them to our Committee in the enclosed postage paid envelope. We will collect all cards returned and insure that the policymakers involved in these decisions are made aware of both our concerns and yours.

November 5, 2001

More detailed information about this rate increase are available from Bonnie Naffziger at Tech-Knowledge Connection at 124 Main Street in Ronan and on our website at www.rtccac.com.

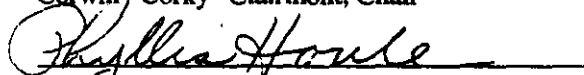
Please join us in our attempt to save affordable high quality telephone service in our Community!

Thank you!


RTC Consumer Advisory Committee



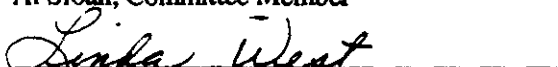
Corwin "Corky" Clairmont, Chair



Phyllis Houle, Committee Member



Al Sloan, Committee Member



Linda West, Committee Member



Bonnie Mueller, Vice Chair



Bill Koberg, Committee Member



Thomas Trickel, Committee Member

Example of Post Cards Retuned for FCC

To: **Federal Communications Commission-Chairman Micheal Powell & Commissioners Kathleen O. Avernathy, Micheal J. Copps, and Kevin J. Martin.**

From: _____ Tel. # (406) _____
print your name
_____, MT _____
Street Address City Zip Code

I write to protest your decision on October 11 to raise my telephone bill by increasing the federal Subscriber Line Charge on January 1, 2002 (*MAG decision*). I support the efforts of the Ronan Telephone Company Consumer Advisory Committee, who represents me, a telephone consumer of *RTC*, in their efforts to participate in the policy making process to keep our rural phone rates affordable. In addition our consumer committee informs us that future policies the FCC is considering may raise our phone rates to levels no longer affordable if enacted. This is unacceptable policy making. *We ask that you reconsider your October 11 decision and that you give the public an open and timely opportunity to comment on future decisions that will raise my phone costs.* The practice of making decisions with FCC staff input and communications with special interests after the public comment period is closed must cease!

I depend on rural telephone service. Do not allow the FCC to raise the price for my phone above what we (*my neighbors and I*) in rural America can afford.

Sign on line above

Date

Name

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

**RTC Consumer Advisory Committee
P.O. Box 61
Ronan, Montana 59864**

Example of Post Cards Retuned for MT Cong. Del.

**To: The Montana Congressional Delegation:
Senators Max Baucus, Senator Conrad Burns, Representative Dennis Rehburg**

From: _____ Tel. # (406) _____
print your name
_____, MT _____
Street Address City Zip Code

I write to thank you for requesting that the FCC delay the implementation of the MAG Plan. Unfortunately, the FCC ignored your advice and sent down a decision that will raise my telephone bill with no benefit to me or other rural consumers nation wide. I wish to inform you that I support the efforts of the Ronan Telephone Company Consumer Advisory Committee, who represents me, a telephone consumer of RTC, in their efforts to participate in the policy making process to keep our rural phone rates affordable. In addition to the decision to raise our phone rates on January 1, our consumer committee informs us that future policies the FCC is considering may raise our phone rates to levels not affordable if enacted. This is unacceptable! *We ask that you use your influence to request that the FCC reconsider it's October 11 decision and that you act to insure that the public can have an open and timely opportunity to comment on future decisions that will raise my phone rates.* The practice of making decisions with FCC staff input and communications with special interests after the public comment period is closed must cease!

I depend on rural telephone service. Do not allow the FCC to raise the price for my phone above what we (my neighbors and I) in rural America can afford.

Sign on line above

Date

Name

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

**RTC Consumer Advisory Committee
P.O. Box 61
Ronan, Montana 59864**

Ronan Telephone Company Subscribers Protesting FCC "MAG" Rate Increase

	Name	Address	Phone
1	Stacey Sherwin	2209 Timberlane Ronan, MT 59864	406-275-4931
2	Ed Miller	BOX 145 Big Horn, MT 59010	406-342-5251
3	Cynthia Preston	6472 Timberline Way Charlo, MT 59824	406-644-2422
4	James Ogden	120 Kennedy Dr Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-0005
5	Roy F Matais	P.O.Box 350 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-0010
6	Roy E Mathis	P O Box 350 Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
7	Bryan Buys	500 2nd Ave W Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
8	Kelly Buys	500 2nd Ave W Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-0022
9	Robert Mutchler	Box 44 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-0031
10	Mary Smith- Reum	207 2nd & 2nd W Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-0044
11	Mrs. Karla Martinson	4035 Old 93 Ronan, MT 59864	Non-Published
12	Wee Care Child Care	7 5th Ave Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-0062
13	Alycia Hameline	P.O.Box 421 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-0075
14	Wanda Swim	P.O.Box 67 Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
15	Norman Starkel	1087 Courvill Tr Polson, MT 59860	406-675-0121
16	Doug Crockett	5228 N Foothills Dr Polson, MT 59860	406-675-0130
17	Thomas R. McGreevey	323 Courville Trail Pablo MT 59855	406-675-0161
18	Ralph T Salomon	4259 Salomon Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-0178
19	Zon G Lloyd	408 Spud Ln Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-0186
20	Fay E Haynes	1303 Stinger Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-0210
21	Walene Maas	188 Clairmont Rd Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-0255
22	Robin R Vanness	180 Courville Trail Polson, MT 59860	406-675-0320
23	Alf B Salway	45 Carlyle Lane Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-0330
24	Melvin Vullcs	1044 Pablo West Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-0370
25	Bruce Kuck	Box 532 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-0381
26	Daniel Hoy	2362 Carbine Rd Polson, MT 59860	406-675-0388
27	Dan Allred	52166 Hwy 93 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-0440
28	Fritz Haninger	3275 Snyder Hill Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-0451
29	Gary R Harding	4015 Old Hwy 93 Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-0460
30	Jerome W. Ranstrom	5116 Addy Lane, Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-0465
31	Robert R Watt	P O Box 357 Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
32	Sharon A Watt	# 8 Lewis Lane Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
33	Wanda Phillips	300 Stanger Loop Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-0691
34	J. White Eagle	407 4th Ave E Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
35	Gerald Slater	211 Kennedy Dr Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-0740
36	Stewart Schiele	3180 Emory Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-0744
37	Barbara A Kintz	Box 264 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-0789
38	Ella Rae Krump	PO BOX 855 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-0800
39	Gloria Rost	407 3rd St N Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-0835
40	Doreen Eggebrecht	5 Lewis Lane Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-0874
41	Doug Stevens	3068 Emory Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-0882
42	Gerald Clairmont	Box 32 Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2002
43	Denise E Blow	2218 Emory Road Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2007
44	John R Anderson	5394 Double Tree Lane Polson, MT 59860	406-675-2009
45	Jim Mathen	601 3rd Ave Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2015
46	Rich Coulson	355 Clairmont Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2020
47	E. David Kircher	2264 Emory Road Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2045

48	Thomas L Noyes	309 5th Ave W Apt 3 Polson, MT 59860	406-675-2074
49	Susie M Krahn	209 5th Ave E Pablo, MT 59864	406-675-2077
50	Ida Rose Wytton	5023 Leighton Polson, MT 59860	406-675-2100
51	Edward R Unger	5134 Leighton Road Polson, MT 59864	406-675-2101
52	Marilyn Gardipe	Box 559 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2126
53	Vance & Kandice Walhood	P.O.Box 686 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2133
54	Randall Ashley	1231 Carbine Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2138
55	John S Graham	3196 Roullier Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2149
56	Bonita K. Amrine	410 2nd Ave Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2157
57	Kathie Maiers	5304 Pinetree Lane Polson, MT 59860	406-675-2164
58	Dennis McCrea	261 Clairmont Rd Ronan, MT 59864	Non-Published
59	Lavonne Pierce	P O Box 143 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2175
60	Jeffrey & Patricia Clairmont	2134 Clairmont Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2189
61	Elsie Garbe	410 2nd Ave Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2206
62	J. Sitzman	P.O.Box 111 Ronan, MT 59864	Non-Published
63	Robert E Ainslie	4300 North Foothills Dr Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2220
64	Henry I Johnson	503 2nd Ave Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2221
65	Don Drowatzky	5302 Pine Tree Lane Polson, MT 59860	406-675-2222
66	Melanie Turnburke	#17 347 Old Hwy 93 South Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
67	Michael Shields	PO Box 262 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2239
68	Barbara Shields	PO Box 262 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2239
69	Barb Kinkade	106 Division Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
70	Alvin E Bisson	PO Box 528 Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
71	Shirley Borchers	PO BOX 499 Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2256
72	Steven Danielson	347 Old Hwy 93 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2261
73	Robert Lulow	P.O.Box 647 Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2277
74	Marcella Mahseelah	Panchot Ave Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2279
75	Lillian Hartung	204 2nd St N Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2282
76	Lily of the Valley	P.O.Box 756 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2287
77	Britt Salois	PO BOX 135 Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
78	Stan & Pauline Larum	Box 595 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2316
79	Angie Marquez	2354 4th Ave Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
80	Dan Tromp	PO Box 578 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2331
81	Donna Perkins	3030 Snyder Lane Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2338
82	Clay A Sloan	Box 31 Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
83	C Bear Adams	4340 Addy Lane Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2357
84	David G Bell	619 MT Ave Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2374
85	Clarence Erickson	BOX 152 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2385
86	Naomi & Craig Dulmes	P.O.Box 342 Polson, MT 59860	406-675-2414
87	Dave Vanhaverbeke	30-22 5th St N Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2423
88	Michael Kelsch	PO Box 661 Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2434
89	Suzanne Davis	470 Bluebird Lane, Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2456
90	James Nielsen	5365 Whispering Pines Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2459
91	DeDe Aman	337 Courville Trail Polson, MT 59860	406-675-2464
92	Jack J Clay	3266 N Foothills Dr Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2509
93	Paul C Bower	350 Courevill Trail Polson, MT 59860	406-675-2525
94	Robert Peregoy	4258 Canal Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2530
95	Ken Rowley	4110 Roullier Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2549
96	Sharon Hill	5044 Trail's End Ln Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2552
97	Ann Kinney	404 5th Ave Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2639
98	Edward A Sharbono	P.O.Box 707 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2660
99	Caroline Moran	Box 311 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2667

100	Salish & Kootenai Tribes	Hwy 93 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2700
101	Art Brueggeman	147 Clairmont Rd Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2787
102	Harold & Ada McCay	120 Kennedy Dr Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2790
103	Bill Whitford	5138 Pine Tree Ln Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
104	Troy A Erickson	253 Clairmont Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2811
105	Deborah Weivoda	121 Courville Tr Polson, MT 59860	406-675-2848
106	Honora Dusty Bull	PO Box 64 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2874
107	Grace Lee	40 Leanin Tr Ln Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-2888
108	Ken van Engen	408 3rd Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-2949
109	Wade & Lisa Oberg	6628 Haystack Mtn Ln Polson, MT 59860	406-675-3019
110	Maureen McElderry	P.O.Box 172 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3023
111	Bruce Plouffe Sr.	Box 847 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3035
112	Kyle Matson	P.O.Box 862 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3044
113	Jeanne Tauck	46 Carlyle Ln Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-3088
114	Joe Forte	P.O.Box 802 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3111
115	AnnMarie Olsson	51162 Hwy 93 Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-3174
116	Maria Boldt	4255 Canal Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-3181
117	David Whiting	P O Box 553 Polson, MT 59860	406-675-3225
118	Jerry Oie	5088 Trail's End Ln Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3232
119	Sandy Alford	P.O.Box 222 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3243
120	Danica Clairmont	2059 Clairmont Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-3262
121	Rose E. Freeman	1092 Clairmont Road Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-3287
122	Judy Likens	P O Box 741, Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
123	Ray Buys	205 3rd St N Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3301
124	Donna Reum	1301 Bouchard Rd Ronan, MT 59864	Non-Published
125	Jim Arndt	5358 Double Tree Ln Polson, MT 59860	Non-Published
126	Patricia Miller	21 Northwood Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-3316
127	Tonia Ellenwood	311 4th Street Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
128	Georgia Cook	PO Box 193 Polson, MT 59860	406-675-3332
129	Charlene Cudwell	52310-5 Hwy 93 Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-3339
130	V. Yolanda Matt	4001 Old Hwy 93 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3343
131	Victor L. Stinger	Box 134 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3360
132	June D Skaggs	#11 2nd Division Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
133	Sandra Conover	174 Greywolf Drive Ronan, MT 59864	Non-Published
134	Tabitha Jacobs	52310 Hwy 93 N Lot 40 Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-3457
135	Dennis Klaus	5111 Addy Lane Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-3458
136	Norman Shaw	52370 Hwy 93 Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-3461
137	Richard Mikesell	P O Box 639 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3474
138	Richard Mikesell	39 Leanin Tree Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3474
139	Bonnie Hout	503 3rd Ave E Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3480
140	Julie Courville	301 4th Ave E Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3492
141	Virginia Ness	Box 176 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3554
142	Carol Azure	PO Box 353 Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
143	Wayne & Adina Fuchs	36 Sky Lane Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-3580
144	Debra Garcia	102 3rd St Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3581
145	Dan O'Bannan	601 4th Ave N Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3592
146	Juan Perez	3506 Alexander Ln Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-3611
147	Alvin Savior	Box 398 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3630
148	Thersa Bowman	5330 Double Tree Ln Polson, MT 59860	406-675-3633
149	Kristi Johnson	PO Box 748 Polson, MT 59864	406-675-3635
150	Marge Gilson	5264 Whispering Pines Dr Ronan, MT 59864	Non-Published
151	Corinna Little Coyote	3529 Alexander Lane Ronan, MT 59864	Non-Published

152	Linda Garcia	50155 Hwy 93 Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-3699
153	Kelly Potter	P.O.Box 671 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3803
154	Anna Swan	Box 716 Pablo, MT 59855	Non-Published
155	Kevin Schomer	12 Leanin tree Ln Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-3846
156	Sara Mitchell	188 Clairmont Pablo, MT 59864	406-675-3892
157	Michelle Probst	3196-B Roullier Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-3985
158	Harry L Hodges	53032 Hwy 93 Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4010
159	Jennifer Patterson	P.O.Box 777 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4011
160	SKC-CWT	Box 117 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4016
161	Wendy Reiner	4026 Roullier Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4026
162	Shirley McBroom	PO Box 52 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4036
163	Janice Michel	PO BOX 620 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4038
164	Venus Mathias	Box 804 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4042
165	Nellie Stokes	PO BOX 627 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4044
166	Jessie Bettencourt	310 3rd Ave E Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4054
167	Paul Ray Paulson	2195 Emory Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4063
168	Cindy L Umphrey	P.O.Box 853 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4068
169	Loana C Tougas	1200 Courville Trl Ronan, MT 59860	406-675-4085
170	Corwin Clairmont	2151 Emory Road Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4088
171	Judith Bystrom	3055 Snyder Hill Polson, MT 59860	406-675-4091
172	Cal Rowley	4115 Roullier Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4116
173	Lloyd Jackson	5087 Trails End Ln Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4137
174	Lorey Jackson	5073 Trails End Lane Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4140
175	Earl Mutchler	4375 Salomon Rd Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4145
176	Larry Sheumaker	Box 255 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4155
177	Kathy Sweatt	4361 Carbine Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4162
178	Carolyn Streets	170 Carbine Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4185
179	Leonard Snyder	195 Clairmont Rd Ronan, MT	406-675-4191
180	Rita French	140 Carbine Rd Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4229
181	Pablo/Lake Co Water & Sewer	P.O.Box 550 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4242
182	David L Crawford	3383 N Foothills Dr Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4293
183	Peggy A. Haggard	PO Box 289 Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4295
184	Anthony Schoon	52190 Hwy 93 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4301
185	Tom Wolf	185 Courville Trail Polson, MT 59860	406-675-4309
186	George Garcia Jr.	102 3rd St Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4328
187	Ethel Heaney	3472 Old Hwy 93 / P.O.Box 284 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4333
188	Richard A Hardy	P.O.Box 312 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4340
189	Gordon & Geraldine Jore	5391 Double Tree Ln Polson, MT 59860	406-675-4343
190	B. David Gilroy	PO BOX 962 Polson, MT 59860	406-675-4344
191	Thomas Patch	190 Kennedy Dr Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4370
192	Esther Titcomb	5312 Whispering Pines Dr Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4391
193	Jackqualine Byington	207 2nd Ave Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4421
194	Bev Dalke	106 6th Ave NW Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4503
195	Marlene F. Bourdon	911 Montana Ave Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4523
196	Lauri Johns	120 Kennedy Dr Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4524
197	John Schaub	PO BOX 366 Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4531
198	Jeffrey Dodgson	508 2nd Ave E Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4533
199	Howard Arlint	103 5th Ave Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4551
200	Jolene Reum	134 Kennedy Dr Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4636
201	Justin Bartels	29 Hwy 93 S Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4667
202	Duane McGuire	347 Old Hwy Pablo, MT 59855	406-675-4763
203	Donald Perkins	3030 Snyder Hill Ronan, MT 59864	406-675-4779